

Message Text

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EXDIS-DOD HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

E.O11652: GDS

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SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. PORTUGAL: CARLUCCI INCURS PRESIDENTIAL DISPLEASURE

ACTING ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM PRESIDENT EANES, GOP FOREIGN MINISTER MADEIROS FERREIRA CONVEYED TO AMBASSADOR CARLUCCI EANES' SURPRISE THAT THE AMBASSADOR HAD ATTENDED THE OPENING SESSION OF THE AZOREAN ASSEMBLY. ACCORDING TO FERREIRA, EANES CONSIDERED IT "AN AMBIGUOUS ACT AT A SENSITIVE MOMENT."

AMBASSADOR'S COMMENT: THE INCIDENT ILLUSTRATES THE EXTREME POLITICAL SENSITIVITIES THAT STILL EXIST HERE. SINCE AZOREAN INDEPENDENCE IS NO LONGER THE ISSUE IT WAS AND THE ELECTIONS ARE OVER, I DID NOT THINK MY PRESENCE AT THE ASSEMBLY WOULD BE MISINTERPRETED. I WAS MISTAKEN. (CONFIDENTIAL)

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DENTIAL) LISBON 5154 (LIMDIS), 7/31.)

2. BAHRAIN: AMIR MATTER OF FORCE EXTENSION

IN AN AUGUST 1 CALL ON THE AMIR, AMBASSADOR TWINAM REQUESTED THAT THE GOB EXTEND THE DEPARTURE DATE FOR THE MIDDLE EAST FORCES TO AT LEAST JUNE 1978 TO PERMIT USG CONSIDERATION OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROPOSAL. THE AMIR:

--EXPLAINED THAT WHILE HE HAD NOT DESIRED THE NAVY'S DEPARTURE, POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS HAD MADE IT SEEM NECESSARY; AND

--STATED THAT HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER.

THE AMBASSADOR WILL DISCUSS THE MATTER FURTHER WITH THE AMIR FOLLOWING THE FORMER'S AUGUST 3 APPOINTMENT WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER. (SECRET) MANAMA 1090 (EXDIS), 8/1.)

3. SOVIETS AGONIZE OVER PALESTINIANS' FATE

THE SOVIETS CONTINUE TO SIGNAL THEIR CONCERN OVER THE PLIGHT OF THE PALESTINIAN MOVEMENT. A JULY 30 IZVESTIYA COMMENTARY:

--WARNED THAT THE PALESTINIAN MOVEMENT WAS THREATENED WITH "PHYSICAL LIQUIDATION" IN LEBANON;

--ASSERTED THAT ISRAELI OCCUPIED LANDS ARE "PERHAPS THE ONLY ONES IN WHICH THE PALESTINIAN STATE COULD BE ESTABLISHED."

EMBASSY MOSCOW COMMENT: IF THE CURRENT CEASEFIRE EFFORTS FAIL, MOSCOW WILL BE FACED WITH AN IMMEDIATE DILEMMA OF WHAT, IF ANYTHING, TO DO FOR THE PALESTINIANS. IT LOOKS AS THOUGH THEY HAVE NO OPTIONS EXCEPT TO GRIT THEIR TEETH AND BEAR IT. (CONFIDENTIAL) MOSCOW 12097, 7/30.)

4. MOZAMBIQUE TO THROW ANOTHER LOG ON THE UN FIRES?

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IN AN INTERVIEW PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR THE UN, MOZAMBIQUE'S FOREIGN MINISTER CHISSANO CLAIMED THAT SOUTH AFRICAN "AGGRESSION" AGAINST ZAMBIA AND RHODESIAN ACTIONS AGAINST MOZAMBIQUE WERE LINKED TO A COMMON STRATEGY TO FRUSTRATE AFRICAN ATTEMPTS AT SELF-DETERMINATION. EMBASSY MAPUTO BELIEVES THAT CHISSANO WILL SEEK TO BROADEN THE CURRENT UNSC DEBATE ON ALLEGED SOUTH AFRICAN AGGRESSION TO

INCLUDE RHODESIAN ACTIONS AGAINST MOZAMBIQUE. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) MAPUTO 862, 7/30.)

5. JAPAN: MIKI RIDES A CREST OF UNCERTAINTY

THE TANAKA ARREST HAS SHOCKED JAPANESE POLITICIANS, WHO FEAR THAT THE LOCKHEED INVESTIGATION MAY PROCEED WITH NO HEED PAID TO POLITICAL TRADITIONS. EMBASSY TOKYO NOTES:

--PRIME MINISTER MIKI HAS GAINED STATURE BY "NOT INTERFERING" THUS FAR, BUT CREDIT OR BLAME FOR THE LOCKHEED OUTCOME WILL BE HIS.

--ARREST OF A CABINET OFFICER OR OF SEVERAL LDP POLITICIANS BEYOND THE TANAKA CIRCLE COULD FORCE MIKI'S RESIGNATION, BUT NO CHALLENGE CAN BE MOUNTED UNTIL THE INVESTIGATION CONCLUDES; A LENGTHY PROBE COULD, IN FACT, SAVE MIKI.

--THE ARREST ENDED FOR THE TIME BEING SUSPICIONS OF A USG-GOJ LOCKHEED COVERUP. (CONFIDENTIAL) TOKYO 11527, 7/30.)

6. PRC: THANKS, BUT NO THANKS

THE PRC HAS POLITELY REFUSED THE OFFER OF USG EARTHQUAKE ASSISTANCE. THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE MFA'S USA DIVISION EXPRESSED THANKS FOR THE US SYMPATHY BUT AFFIRMED CHINA'S DESIRE TO "RELY ON OUR OWN EFFORTS." SHE ADDED THAT CASUALTIES AND DESTRUCTION FROM THE EARTHQUAKE WERE SEVERE BUT RESCUE EFFORTS WERE UNDERWAY. (CONFIDENTIAL) PEKING 1462, 8/1.) KISSINGER

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